



## MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

### STATE OF MAINE

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The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on November 12, 2014, at Monmouth Middle School, Monmouth, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Peter Geiger; Vice Chair Martha Harris; William Beardsley; Alan Burton; Nichi Farnham; Jana Lapoint; Jane Sexton; Ande Smith; Gwendolyn Viles; and Alyssa Wardwell.

Excused: Heidi Sampson

Also present were: Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education.

### **CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair Peter Geiger called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

### **STUDENT TRANSFER APPEALS:**

MOVED by Nichi Farnham, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to uphold the Commissioner's ruling for the student transfer to Falmouth High School. The student transfer request is denied.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Read by Chair, Peter Geiger: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOVED by William Beardsley, seconded by Alan Burton, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the October 14, 2014 minutes as amended.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

RECEIPT OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS CONCERNING THE  
UNITY COLLEGE APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DEGREE-GRANTING  
AUTHORITY

**BACKGROUND:** Unity College is a fully accredited higher education institution located in Unity, Maine. It is currently authorized to confer four academic degrees: the Bachelor of Arts; the Bachelor of Science; the Associate of Arts; and the Associate of Science. The College applied for additional degree-granting authority to offer a graduate degree, the Master of Professional Science, in the fall of 2015. On September 24, 2014, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, the State Board approved Review Team met with Unity College administration and academic representatives in the offices of the Maine Department of Education. During this meeting the Review Team

conducted its evaluation of the College's application focusing upon whether the applicant's proposal meets the Board's degree-granting standards, as found in Title 21-A, Chapter 170.

Following this meeting the Review Team developed its Report of Findings. Attached please find the Review Team's report; a copy of the Unity College additional degree-granting application; a copy of the College's most recent audited financial statement; and a copy of the College's five-year financial plan for implementation of the proposed graduate degree program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the State Board of Education receive the Unity College Review Team's Report of Findings along with accompanying documentation. The Unity College request for additional degree-granting authority will appear as an action agenda item during the Board's December 10, 2014 meeting.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Unity College Review Team's Report of Findings along with accompanying documentation.

#### RECEIPT OF THE COLBY COLLEGE PROGRAM REVIEW TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS

**BACKGROUND:** A program approval visit to Colby College was conducted September 28 – October 1, 2014 for the purpose of reviewing the following professional educator certification program:

##### Secondary Education, 7-12

- English/Language Arts
- Foreign Language
- Mathematics
- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Social Studies

Following the on-site visitation, a report was prepared which includes findings, commendations, and program recommendations as well as a recommendation for State program approval status. Attached is a copy of the Colby College Self Study Report and a copy of the Colby College Review Team's Report of Findings.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the State Board of Education receive the Colby College Review Team's Report of Findings. Consideration of this report will appear as an action agenda item for the Board's December 10, 2014 meeting.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to receive the Colby College Review Team's Report of Findings.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### REQUEST TO EXTEND THE REVIEW OF BOWDOIN COLLEGE'S EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS TO THE FALL OF 2016

**BACKGROUND:** Bowdoin College is scheduled for a program review in the fall of 2015. However, numerous faculty transitions impede the successful adherence to the timeline. At the end of 2014, one of the three tenure-track faculty members of the Education Department will retire. In response, the Bowdoin Education Department hired a new tenure-track assistant professor who will begin teaching full time in the spring of 2015. Also in 2015, the one remaining

tenured professor will be on a sabbatical year. This professor had agreed to actively participate in the scheduled Fall 2015 state review. Unfortunately, another unexpected resignation of a long-term visiting faculty member in June 2014 forced Bowdoin to delay the sabbatical of the tenured professor to the 2015-2016 academic year in order to provide a full complement of course offerings.

As a consequence of these circumstances, the Bowdoin College Education Department will be staffed by only one tenured faculty member, an assistant professor, and an as-yet-to-be-hired sabbatical leave replacement adjunct in the Fall 2015. In the fall of 2016 the department will be fully staffed with two tenured faculty members and one tenure track professor with two semesters of experience at the College.

State Board Rule Chapter 114, Part 3.1 (e) reads as follows:

Requests for extensions for existing approval, due to extraordinary circumstances, may be granted at the discretion of the State Board of Education; however, such extensions shall not extend the date when the subsequent approval is due. The Board will only consider such requests in emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education extend the review of Bowdoin College's Department of Education to the Fall of 2016 and extend the current approval of the Bowdoin College Teacher Preparation Program through December 2016. In doing so, the number of years to the next review scheduled for 2020 will be reduced by one year.

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to extend the review of Bowdoin College's Department of Education to the fall of 2016 and extend the current approval of the Bowdoin College Teacher Preparation Program through December 2016. In doing so the number of years to the next review scheduled for 2020 will be reduced by one year.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE MAINE CARL D. PERKINS GRANT AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT OF 2006 (P.L. 109-270)

As a condition for the receipt of Federal funds to support vocational and technical education, §122 of the recently reauthorized Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270) requires a designated "eligible agency" in each State, in Maine's case, the State Board of Education to submit a State Plan for Career and Technical Education. This plan was approved by the State Board on March 12, 2008. Further requirements are as follows:

"SEC. 121. STATE ADMINISTRATION.

"(a) ELIGIBLE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of an eligible agency under this title shall include:

"(3) convening and meeting as an eligible agency (consistent with State law and procedure for the conduct of such meetings) at such time as the eligible agency determines necessary to carry out the eligible agency's responsibilities under this title, but not less than 4 times annually;

The State Board Chair requested, in accordance with Title 20-A, Section 405, 7, that the Board receives a quarterly financial report from the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team and the Department of Financial and Administrative Services (DAFS). We would like to submit this report as the first report for FY2015.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The State Board approve the Quarterly report for the period of July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270).

MOVED by Martha Harris, seconded by Jane Sexton, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Quarterly report for the period of July 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270).

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### ***Construction Committee (Martha Harris):***

The Construction Committee met on November 3, 2014. Present were Martha Harris, Chair of the Committee; Peter Geiger, Board Member; Scott Brown, and Stephanie Clark from the Department of Education.

- The minutes from the meeting of October 3, 2014 were unanimously approved by members present.
- Mr. Brown gave an update on all 12 projects which the Board has given the go-ahead to proceed with. They are each at different stages.
- It is anticipated that RSU 19 (Newport) may come to the Committee in December for site approval.
- Mr. Brown will present to the Board at their December 10, 2014 meeting.

There being no further business, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.

The next Construction Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 1, 2014. The meeting will be in room 541 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

#### ***Certification and Higher Education (Nichi Farnham):***

The Certification and Higher Education Committee did not meet in October.

Nichi shared with the full Board two handouts and gave a brief explanation of each:

- Summary of Educator Preparation Program Approval Periods
- 2014 Program Review Schedules and Team Rosters

Nichi is working on a snap shot of where the Committee is on policies:

- Career and Technical Education (CTE) update – we added the alternate pathway for CTE instructors so they could instruct and not have to take one of the regular test but could use their industry skills
- Special Education Law Course that school administrators had to take has run its course
- Chapter 118 – Mentoring Materials are 10 years out of date and need to be reviewed

The next Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2014. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

***Career and Technical Education (Peter Geiger):***

The Career and Technical Education Committee (CTE) held a meeting on Monday, November 10, 2014, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Committee Chair Peter Geiger; Alan Burton; and Alyssa Wardwell by phone (Board Members); Donna Tiner (Department of Education) and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education.

- Early College Grants (Bridge Year Grants) that the State provides. An RFP is going out this week.
- Perkins Authorization – Meg is thinking it is still 2 years out. Peter met with Angus King's education staff and will meet with Susan Collins staff as well to get this pushed.
- Industry recognized accreditation and Alan talked about the importance of industry recognized credentials.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 AM.

The next CTE Committee meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2014. The meeting will be in room 538 of the Cross State Office building. The approved minutes will be posted on the State Board website.

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:****Chair, Peter Geiger**

- He attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference held in Westminster Colorado along with Martha Harris and Steve Pound who completed his term on NASBE's Board.
  - He was on a panel "*Improving the Principal Pipeline*", relating to the Board's experience with the Maine Principals Association (MPA) and ongoing work being done in Maine. An interim report is due to NASBE on December 15, 2014. A final report is due on June 15, 2015.
  - Martha and he split up concurrent sessions.
  - Key issues: Turnaround schools; Investing in Early Learning; Teacher Certification; and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education.
  - Deeper Learning Author Monica Martinez who will be speaking in Maine in November at the Maine Principals Association (MPA) Conference.
- He attended the Maine School Management Association (MSMA) Annual Fall Conference at the Augusta Civic Center on October 23 and 24.
  - 2 day event and he attended Thursday with Martha, Alan and Jane.
  - Similar issues to national but with more local/practical information.
  - Attended sessions on Proficiency-based Diplomas; Food services in schools; and Educator Evaluation Systems.
  - When people broke into regions, he sat in on Washington County because their issues are so different from larger districts.
- Maine Learning Standards Review – panel appointed by Commissioner Rier to assess Maine's Standards as they relate to Clarity, Rigor and College/Career preparedness. Task of evaluating the standards was broken into content (ELA and Math) and by grade groupings. Both content areas had met twice before and this was an opportunity to look at them again. ELA looking at all of the standards, same for math. All comments are being reviewed by the Department of Education (DOE). And, people can still offer input on their website.
- Committee Assignments – Peter passed out committee assignments. He realizes that there will be additional opportunities to be on panels and attend seminars. His intent is to

match each person's talent with requests and he appreciates everyone's willingness to participate. (Committee list sent to SBE members in October)

- On November 5<sup>th</sup> – he attended the Construction Committee meeting followed by Public Hearings on Chapters 60 & 61 Construction Rulemaking with Martha and Bill representing the SBE along with Scott Brown and his staff. Special thanks to both Martha and Bill for weathering the weather. Both lost power and had to find ways around obstacles to make it to the hearings.
- Peter has books available for reading which include Deeper Learning by Dr. Monica Martinez, Innovative State by Aneesh Chopra,
- At the December Meeting he will invite Nancy Perkins and Steve Pound to the SBE lunch for a special thank you gift. Since we will be in the Bowdoin College area, Kristin Bishop will join us as well.
- He tries to be a cheerleader for excellence in education. As such he has sent a letter of congratulations to Mr. Stanley Sluzenski of St. Croix Regional Technical Center and to Principal Cynthia Alexander of Turner Elementary School for being (only Maine School) designated a Blue Ribbon School.
- He is participating in a series of New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) State Accountability webinars. The first was on October 29<sup>th</sup> with Ron Bancroft. Monday was the second featuring Linda Darling Hammond, author of Beyond the Bubble Test. The final webinar is on November 19<sup>th</sup> with Steve Bowen and Jennifer Poon of Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). He will attend a Council meeting on Friday November 21<sup>st</sup> in Concord, NH.
- Monday morning, he is going to Greenville High School to present to Mr. Cartwright's English classes.
- Peter distributed a copy of the Committees/Groups list, the Board's 2015 meeting calendar and a copy of the FY 15 Year to Date Expenditures for the Board.
- Before our next meeting, we'll have an opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends. Peter thanked each Board member for the time and commitment they make to help better education throughout Maine. Happy Thanksgiving!

#### **Vice Chair, Martha Harris**

- She attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference in Denver Colorado from October 15 through October 18. There were a lot of presentations including one by Maine's Board Chair, Peter Geiger. She attended a session where the executive director of the National School Boards Association and the executive director of NASBE presented as united front; a session on school climate; two sessions on school health; a session by Aneesh Chopra re: innovative State (she has his book if Board members would like to borrow it); a session on tiered models for teacher certification; and a session on STEM presented by business leaders.
- On October 20, she attended the Commission to Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity in Certain Costs Components of the School Funding Formula meeting. At the meeting were presentations relating to Regional Cost Adjustments for teacher salaries; debt service for locally approved school construction projects in the required local share of school funding; special education allocation for minimum subsidy receivers; and State contributions to fund the cost of the unfunded actuarial liability for retired teachers.
- She attended another commission meeting on November 6. At the meeting were presentations relating to support for economically disadvantaged students; Title I funds; Data collection and analyses; extended day; summer school programs (including some cost projections). Additional meetings are scheduled for November 14, November 25 and December 4.
- On October 21, she attended a forum on extended school day for her local district.
- She attended the Maine School Management Association Annual Conference on October 23. It was great to see Alan and Jane there. Great professional development.

- On November 3, she attended the Construction Committee meeting; Agenda Review meeting; a public hearing on Chapter 60; and a public hearing on Chapter 61. There was no public comment during the hearings.
- On Saturday, November 15, she will attend the dinner for the Teacher of the Year.
- She contributed to editing the paper regarding Student Engagement, the study group of NASBE in which she participated.

*Note: Nichi Farnham left the meeting at 2:15 pm.*

## **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:**

### **Alan Burton:**

- He attended the Maine School Management Association Fall Conference. He was not able to attend the full conference as he had a prior commitment. He attended four breakout sessions – School Restructuring, Proficiency Based Diploma, Performance Evaluation/Professional Growth and Habits of Mind/Critical Thinking Skills. There is a lot of change going on and people are trying to understand what the changes are and how it will impact them. He was very encouraged by the questions.
- He attended the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting on November 10.

### **Jane Sexton:**

- She attended one day of the Maine School Management Association's Fall Conference. She previously attended the conference as a school board member and this time she was in attendance in a different perspective.

### **Jana Lapoint:**

- She was the Board Observer for the University of Southern Maine (USM) for four days.
- On October 24, she went to listen in for the day review of the Common Core Standards and how they align. We do not have the report but will get a copy when it is released.
- On Saturday, she spent the day at No Common Core Maine. The meeting went from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
- She went to Hampden Academy on November 8, as Chevrus High School Boys Soccer Team took the State championship. Her grandson is on the team.

### **Ande Smith:**

- He spent a fair amount of time drafting a report for a Virtual School that will be presented on Thursday, November 13.
- He participated in a strategic planning session at his local school district.
- He did a courtesy call interview with a new superintendent in his district to get acquainted and to let him know he is on the State Board of Education.
- He tried to call in to the Construction Committee meeting on November 30 but was not successful.

### **Alyssa Wardwell:**

- She went on an AP field trip to the University of Southern Maine (USM) Campus in Portland. She got to be the chair of a fake board.
- She got an award for SMAA All-Academic team for soccer.
- A Guidance Counselor at the high school asked if she wanted to mentor a kid from a neighboring town on mornings that she does not have class. She is thinking she will do this.
- She is still doing the adapted PE class and tutoring some calculus kids.

- At her school they had an advisory meeting which was interesting. They changed some things that kids want. One being if the student is a junior or senior, they can get a pass to go to a local restaurant to get their lunch.
- She attended the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting on November 10 via telephone.

**Gwendolyn Viles:**

- She was elected historian of the Nokomis FELA and she gets to compile a scrapbook of the clubs doings for the year and she is very excited about it.
- She took her SATs last Saturday at Maine Central Institute (MCI).
- Today, she is sending out her application for the Young Writer's Conference at Middlebury College.
- Nokomis Latin Club is having their first convention of the year this Friday and she has been preparing and making competition pieces for it. She is an officer in the club.
- Zach Gilchrist and Chris Holbrook, the two boys from Nokomis JMG program that presented to the Board at the October 14 meeting asked Gwen to thank the Board for giving them both the opportunity to speak before the Board regarding the JMG program.

**William Beardsley:**

- He attended the Chapter 60 and 61 public hearings at the Department of Education on November 3.
- He attended the High Priority Rural Education Issues Symposium in Concord, New Hampshire on October 30.
- He completed the course he was teaching on American Enlightenment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOVED by Ande Smith, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the November 12, 2014 State Board of Education meeting at 2:38 PM.